



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/537,638	Anton Krijnen	DQ 015 PCT/US

Guy L. McClung III  
16690 Champion Forest Dr.  
Spring, TX 77679-7023

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	
PCT/GB2004/003431	
I.A. FILING DATE	PRIORITY DATE
08/09/2004	12/12/2003

**CONFIRMATION NO. 6339**  
**371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER**



OC000000028592347

Date Mailed: 03/04/2008

### NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

11/20/2007  
DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1),  
(c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS

11/20/2007  
DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL  
35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE " FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE.** The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 06/06/2005
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 06/06/2005
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 06/06/2005
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 06/06/2005
- Oath or Declaration filed on 11/20/2007
- Small Entity Statement filed on 06/06/2005
- Request for Immediate Examination filed on 06/06/2005
- Copy of references cited in ISR filed on 06/06/2005
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 06/06/2005
- Assignment filed on 06/06/2005
- Priority Documents filed on 06/06/2005
- Power of Attorney filed on 06/06/2005
- Specification filed on 06/06/2005
- Claims filed on 06/06/2005
- Abstracts filed on 06/06/2005
- Drawings filed on 06/06/2005

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

ULYSSES G WALKER

---

Telephone: (703) 308-9290 EXT 130



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/537,638	Anton Krijnen	DQ 015 PCT/US

Guy L. McClung III  
16690 Champion Forest Dr.  
Spring, TX 77679-7023

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	
PCT/GB2004/003431	
I.A. FILING DATE	PRIORITY DATE
08/09/2004	12/12/2003

**CONFIRMATION NO. 6339**  
**371 WITHDRAWAL NOTICE**



Date Mailed: 03/04/2008

## WITHDRAWAL OF PREVIOUSLY SENT NOTICE

It has come to the attention of the Office that the Notice mailed on 11/06/2007 was sent in error. Please disregard that Notice. The application is complete and will be processed for examination. The Official Filing Receipt is enclosed. We apologize for any inconvenience this has caused.

Registered users of EFS-Web may alternatively submit their reply to this notice via EFS-Web.

<https://sportal.uspto.gov/authenticate/AuthenticateUserLocalEPF.html>

For more information about EFS-Web please call the USPTO Electronic Business Center at 1-866-217-9197 or visit our website at <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc>.

**If you are not using EFS-Web to submit your reply, you must include a copy of this notice.**

ULYSSES G WALKER

Telephone: (703) 308-9290 EXT 130



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING or 371(c) DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
10/537,638	11/20/2007	3672	1830	DQ 015 PCT/US	32	4

CONFIRMATION NO. 6339

Guy L. McClung III  
16690 Champion Forest Dr.  
Spring, TX 77679-7023

## FILING RECEIPT



OC000000028592346

Date Mailed: 03/04/2008

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. **If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections**

### Applicant(s)

Anton Krijnen, Klundert, NETHERLANDS;  
Neils DeKeijzer, Etten-Leur, NETHERLANDS;  
Rene Mulder, Etten-Leur, NETHERLANDS;  
Joe Berry, Cypress, TX;

### Assignment For Published Patent Application

VARCO I/P, INC., Houston, TX  
Brian Ronald LUCAS, Warlingham, UNITED KINGDOM

### Power of Attorney:

Guy McClung III--29008

### Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/GB2004/003431 08/09/2004  
which claims benefit of 60/567,236 05/01/2004  
and is a CIP of 10/807,641 03/23/2004 PAT 6,997,265  
which is a CIP of 10/734,923 12/12/2003 PAT 6,976,540

### Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 06/19/2007

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US 10/537,638**

Projected Publication Date: 06/12/2008

Non-Publication Request: No

**Early Publication Request: No**  
**Title**

Apparatus & Method For Facilitating a Handling Pipe

**Preliminary Class**

166

## **PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES**

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

### **LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER**

**Title 35, United States Code, Section 184**

**Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

#### **GRANTED**

The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where

the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related applications(s) filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d). This license is not retroactive.

The grant of a license does not in any way lessen the responsibility of a licensee for the security of the subject matter as imposed by any Government contract or the provisions of existing laws relating to espionage and the national security or the export of technical data. Licensees should apprise themselves of current regulations especially with respect to certain countries, of other agencies, particularly the Office of Defense Trade Controls, Department of State (with respect to Arms, Munitions and Implements of War (22 CFR 121-128)); the Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce (15 CFR parts 730-774); the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of Treasury (31 CFR Parts 500+) and the Department of Energy.

#### **NOT GRANTED**

No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5.12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15(b).

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Bldg./Room \_\_\_\_\_ **SI-4B20**  
**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450  
If Undeliverable Return In Ten Days

Official Business  
Penalty For Private Use, \$300

**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

016H26576461  
**\$00.41**  
03/04/2008  
PAID FROM 22302  
US POSTAGE

**RECEIVED**  
**MAR 17 2008**  
**US PTO MAIL CENTER**

NIXIE 773 DE 1 00 03/11/08  
RETURN TO SENDER  
UNCLAIMED  
UNABLE TO FORWARD  
BC: 22313145050 \*0217-09190-04-35  
))

7737937023 0053  
22313 00450